

# Cranberry Station Newsletter

MAY 2002

UMASS CRANBERRY STATION

1 STATE BOG ROAD

P.O. BOX 569

EAST WAREHAM, MA 02538

<http://www.umass.edu/umext/programs/agro/cranberries>

## DODDER MANAGEMENT AND USE OF KERB

We have received a Section 18 permit to use Kerb 50W. You may apply 1-2 applications (up to a total of 2 lb per acre of product) during this growing season. Kerb may be applied through the chemigation system or through a boom-type applicator only. The exemption expires June 15, 2002. If you use Kerb, you must submit a pesticide applicator form to DFA by September 30, 2002. These forms are available by request at the Cranberry Station (x10) or from your local ag supplier.

Use of Kerb over the past few years has given good to excellent control of dodder for many growers. Kerb works best when applied prior to dodder emergence. You should be looking for dodder out on your bogs now! We have had dodder seedlings emerging in simulated bog "buckets" (adjacent to State Bog) since April 19. This location tends to be warmer than the bog surface, but is a good indicator of when to start scouting.

In cooperation with CCCGA, we recommend the following Best Management Practices for the use of Kerb:

- Drop the water level in your ditches prior to application.
- Minimize system rinse time.
- Keep planks in the flume and plug all leaks to prevent off-site movement.
- Avoid direct spraying of ditches and waterways.
- Hold water for at least 24 hr (3 days is best).
- Release water slowly after retention period has expired.

If you have any further questions about the use of Kerb, please contact me at the station, x.21.

## OTHER IPM NOTES

**Stinger.** The window for spring applications of Stinger has closed. It is not advisable to apply Stinger during periods of active cranberry growth. The next window of application is after fruit have set. You should still exercise great caution when using Stinger, even after fruit set. It works as a growth regulator and can cause vine damage. In severe instances, vines take 2 or more years to recover. Therefore, use a low dose, especially on ultra-sensitive species like wild bean. Growers have used 1/16 oz per gallon of water (as a spray) on wild bean with good results and no or minimal vine injury. The label recommendation is 0.25-0.5 oz (as a spray) and 2.5 oz (as a wipe) per gallon, but lower rates work well on most target species.

**IPM Phone Message.** Weekly updates on the IPM Phone Message will start Friday May 17, 2002. Messages are updated by noon each Friday unless otherwise noted. Please "leave a message" when you call to help documentation of this service. Feel free to leave comments of topics you would like to see covered on the message if you wish.

**Sign-Posting Clarification- Use of fumigants.** Last month's newsletter contained information about sign posting. I mentioned that there were two signs used in posting for pesticide applications. This holds true for most of our pesticides. Please note, however, that if you use a fumigant, there is a special fumigation sign that needs to be posted.

**HILARY SANDLER**

## AGRICULTURAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT - SEMAP

The Southeastern Massachusetts Agricultural Partnership, a coalition of local farming, business, community development, and University interests (including UMass Dartmouth and UMass Extension), was formed to find ways to provide support to local agriculture by identifying existing services and finding ways to provide the services that were not available in this part of the State. As needs are identified, the group has begun to garner the funds needed to implement their action plan. The Cranberry Station has been identified as the location to house these new programs.

The Southeastern Massachusetts Agricultural Program (SEMAP) is a new, grant-funded outreach program that will provide assistance in the areas of agricultural economic development and farm business management for the agricultural businesses in Southeastern Massachusetts. The SEMAP mission is to enhance Southeastern Massachusetts agricultural business viability.

Rickart (Rick) Connole has been hired as director of SEMAP programs and agricultural business development specialist. Rick's charge is to assess the needs of local agriculture enterprises and develop program objectives to meet those needs. This will include developing educational materials, conducting business trainings and planning courses, developing and implementing a farm business management/economic development program lecture series, and providing one-on-one technical assistance to farmers that addresses small farm profitability, developing a business plan, business management, budgeting, record keeping, diversification and selecting enterprises markets, direct marketing, retail markets, wholesale markets, estate planning, high value enterprises, and advertising and promoting product.

We are happy to welcome Rick to the Cranberry Station and wish him every success as he takes on this challenging position. If you wish to speak with Rick, his extension is 50.

CAROLYN DEMORANVILLE

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MAY 2002 Issue

Deborah Cannon, Editor

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Carolyn DeMoranville,  
Assistant Extension Professor, Acting Director

### WORKER PROTECTION TRAININGS CRANBERRY STATION LIBRARY 2-4 PM

Worker Protection Trainings for cranberry workers in the Handler category will be offered in the spring of 2002, at the Cranberry Station: **May 29, and June 26**. Anyone working on the bog must be trained unless they are a family member or already have a pesticide license. There will be a \$5.00 charge that includes training book and EPA verification card. Contact Debbie at 508-295-2212 (ext. 10) or Marty (ext. 20) to sign-up.

## REMINDERS FOR DISEASE MANAGEMENT

This is the optimal time for the early-season Bravo or Champ application to control upright dieback. 'Howes' are probably not quite ready as I write this, but they aren't too far behind.

I notice that numerous beds are showing symptoms of Phytophthora root rot. I predicted that this disease would make a quick comeback if management strategies were neglected, and that certainly seems to be the case. In fact, I am alarmed how much vine dieback has occurred in some beds. Drainage improvement and fungicide application (Ridomil or Aliette) will effectively control the disease, but at this point some beds have regressed to the point where multiple fungicide applications will be necessary.

The warm and wet conditions of April did not contribute anything positive to the predicted keeping quality of our berries. Do not forget fungicides for fruit rot management in your budgeting process for the upcoming growing season.

Don't forget.....If you have odd-looking vines in one of your beds that are bothering you because you can't figure out what happened to them, call me and I'll take a look at them. I'll try to figure out what's wrong and what you need to do about it.

**FRANK CARUSO**  
**PLANT PATHOLOGY**

## CHART BOOK CHANGES

Under either fruit rot or upright dieback, the following rates should be utilized for these two fungicides:

Bravo Weather Stik: 4.0 – 6.5 pt  
Bravo Ultrex: 3.8 – 6.0 lb

The maximum allowable formulation is 19 pt for Weather Stik and 18 lb for Ultrex.

**FRANK CARUSO**  
**PLANT PATHOLOGY**

## SPRING INSECT ALERT

The warm temperatures earlier this spring accelerated insect activity. For example, cranberry weevils were already swept on State Bog in large numbers during mid-April - we do not usually see high counts until mid to late May. Insects such as blackheaded fireworm, blossomworm, false armyworm, green spanworm, Sparganothis fruitworm, and gypsy moth may all be ahead in their development and can be picked up in a sweep net. If you are battling blackheaded fireworm, be aware that visual inspection of the vines is a better method of detecting early season larvae. If you are in an area where gypsy moth has been a problem, be aware that this year has been forecast to be a bad year by some in the know.

So, the bottom line - do not delay this year and be sure to sweep your bog BEFORE mid-May, if possible. You may not want to treat immediately, but this will give you a gauge of insect activity.

**ANNE AVERILL**  
**ENTOMOLOGIST**

### STATION TIDBITS

- Nitrogen for Bearing Cranberries in North America, by Carolyn DeMoranville is available at the Cranberry Station for \$4.50.
- Please check out our Web Site:  
<http://www.umass.edu/umext/programs/agro/cranberries>
- Pesticide exam package now available on the web: <http://www.massdfa.org/pesticide/htm>
- Cranberry Insects of the Northeast, by Anne Averill and Martha Sylvia is available at the Cranberry Station for \$25.00.
- **MISSING!!!** The Station's 2 inch black notebook of historical pictures is missing from the Library. Anyone with information please call Deb at 295-2212 ext. 10.

## **BOGSIDE CHAT**

A discussion of cranberry production issues with the Staff of the Cranberry Station

Place: Airport Bog, Wade Street, Carver

Hosts: Charlie and Jenney Silva

Date: June 18, 2002

(in case of heavy rain - June 19)

Time: Meet at 9:00 a.m., chat until 10:30 a.m.

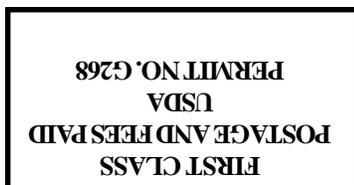
Cranberry growers, Charlie and Jenney Silva will be hosting a bogside chat with members of the Cranberry Station Staff and all interested Massachusetts growers on June 18, 2002 at 9:00 a.m. We will be covering production issues for early season bog management, including weeds, diseases, insects, and general horticulture issues (fertilizer, etc.). If you wish to participate, please meet at the Silva's bog on Wade Street in Carver.

### **Directions:**

**From Wareham:** Take route 58 towards Carver. Stay on Route 58 towards Carver center (pass Edaville RR). Take a right onto South Meadow Street - it is the road with the small airport sign (after you pass Mayflower Road). Follow South Meadow almost to Plymouth line then take a left on Wade Street (before the airport) - the bog is on the right.

**From the Cape:** Leave the Cape on Route 25. Exit the Highway at Route 58. Take a right at end of ramp then follow Wareham directions.

**From Carver/Plymouth:** Follow route 58 through Carver Center. Take a left on South Meadow Street - look for the airport sign at the corner. Follow South Meadow almost to Plymouth line then take a left on Wade Street (before the airport) - the bog is on the right.



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